

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/605,649

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

Applicant(s)

CHIEN ET AL.

Art Unit

2625

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/15/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

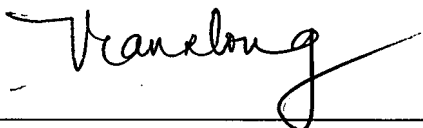
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 02/05/07
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

DOUGLAS Q. TRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER



***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-11 are allowed.

Claim 1 is independent claim.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

**As to claim 1**, the present invention from the application discloses a system comprises “analyzing pixels in the original halftone image neighboring the selected pixel to determine if the neighboring pixels contain dots to be printed; adjusting the position of the selected dot in the selected pixel to increase an average distance between the selected dot and the dots in the neighboring pixels; and creating a modified halftone image in which the position of selected dot has been adjusted”.

The closest prior art such as Sakamoto (US Patent No. 5,045,931), which is recorded on the Examiner's Remark, discloses a printed image without rosette moiré can be produced by adjusting positional relations among halftone images; and Obata (U.S. Pub. No. 2001/0050776 A1), which is recorded on the Examiner's Remark, teaches the pattern detecting device judges whether or not the constructed lengthwise line is of the single dot width or of a plural dot width, when pixels neighboring right and left of the target pixel are white or black and the target pixel is halftone or black.

However, the above prior art fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Examiner's Remark***

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Sakamoto (US Patent No. 5,045,931) discloses a printed image without rosette moiré can be produced by adjusting positional relations among halftone images.

Loce et al. (US Pub. No. 2003/0090729 A1) discloses the assignment of spatial weights can be based on a distance of a neighboring pixel from the center of a halftone dot.

Yamada (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0051209 A1) teaches a subject pixel is set as a white pixel when the difference between the density of the subject pixel and an average density of neighboring pixels of the subject pixel is greater than the predetermined value and the density of the subject pixel deviates from the average density toward the white side, the subject pixel is set as a black dot when the difference is greater than the predetermined value and the density of the subject pixel deviates from the average density toward the black side, and the subject pixel is set as a dot having a density that is determined by the pseudo-halftone processing when the difference is smaller than or equal to the predetermined value.

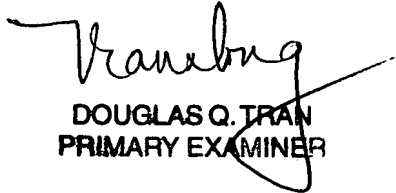
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Obata (U.S. Pub. No. 2001/0050776 A1) teaches the pattern detecting device judges whether or not the constructed lengthwise line is of the single dot width or of a plural dot width, when pixels neighboring right and left of the target pixel are white or black and the target pixel is halftone or black.

***Contact information***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7442.

Apr. 27, 2007

  
DOUGLAS Q. TRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER